

Remarks/Arguments:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121) issued July 7, 2004, Applicants have correctly identified the status of claims 23 and 24 which were intended to indicate their amendment in the Second Supplemental Preliminary Amendment filed on October 31, 2003. In other words, claims 23 and 24 have been amended from the status of these claims as indicated in the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment filed September 3, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel N. Calder, Reg. No. 27,424
Attorney for Applicants

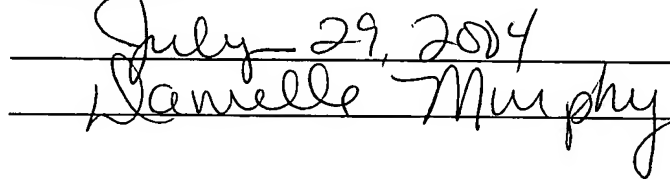
DNC/dlm

Dated: July 29, 2004

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:



DLM_I:\MAT\8065US1\RESPONSE_NONCOMPLIANT.DOC